

Appl. No. 09/601,004
Amdt. dated September 20, 2004
Reply to Office action of April 20, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-8 are present in the application and claims 1 and 7 are amended herein.

A species election has been required. Applicant elects species I, claim 2-4 and 6, with traverse. It is submitted that the claims should be examined together.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The Examiner states that "values of local support" is unclear, saying that no reasonable interpretation can be given for Examination purposes. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The specification provides sufficient support for the meaning of this term. For example, at page 1, in the paragraph under the heading "Field of the Invention, "local support" is defined as the case where a function has values that are finite values other than zero in a local region, and the function values become zero in regions different from that local region.

It is respectfully submitted that this meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

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Further, the Examiner states that he considers for examination purposes that values of local support means that the sampling function has a zero value toward +/- infinity. However, this is not what applicants have stated that the term means. Having a zero value toward +/- infinity is a different concept than the definition which is set forth in the specification. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that to use a definition different than what applicant has set forth results in the incorrect conclusion that the claims are anticipated.

Claims 1-4 are rejected as being non-statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101. This rejection arises because the Examiner considers the claims to not have sufficient steps or structure to be other than a mathematical algorithm. The Examiner suggested that the inclusion of a limitation to a practical application (say, for example, limiting the claims to cover the interpolation of pixel image data, or the inclusion of a computer to perform the function). Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify that the system is for processing image data, and therefore the rejection is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 8 are rejected as being anticipated by Masaru et al under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Applicants again respectfully traverse this rejection.

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Applicants still maintain their arguments and position of the previous response.

Referring again to the sampling function of Masaru et al, the term of the quadratic B-spline functions Ψ_k multiplied by w_k (predetermined coefficient) is added (linear combination) from $k=-\infty$ to $k=+\infty$. Therefore, a wave form of this sampling function exists in a broad range of $-\infty$ to $+\infty$.

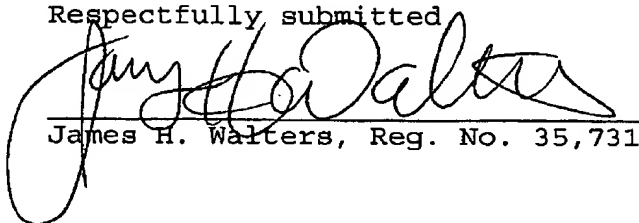
Actually, to calculate the interpolation values using the sampling function by Masaru et al., it is required to perform calculation using a finite range of the sampling function (it is impossible to calculate the infinite range with computers). Therefore, the other ranges should be truncated (calculated as supposing the value is 0). It is known that the truncation error occur by performing the interpolation process with using only a part of sampling function. Further, the truncation error should occur in case where the sampling function of Masaru et al, is used.

In contrast, the sampling functions of claim 1, for example, of the present application have values of local support. Therefore, the truncation error should not occur and generation of an aliasing distortion is prevented, and as a consequence, it is possible to obtain an interpolation result with a small error. The specification as filed, page 14, lines 4 to 10 provides support for this above set of comments.

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In light of the above noted amendments and remarks, this application is believed in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is asked to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted



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